

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-12
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 SP-02 TRSE-00 DODE-00 NSCE-00
SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /061 W
-----088469 221931Z /50

O 221851Z MAR 78
FM USMISSION USNATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0190
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO CINCLANT NORFOLK VA
USLOSACLANT NORFOLK VA
USNMR SHAPE BE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

S E C R E T USNATO 03022

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MNUC, NATO, NPG
SUBJECT: NPG: NIKE-HERCULES -- MISSION COMMENTS ON DRAFT
PERMREP REPORT

REF: (A) USNATO 2951 (DTG 211923Z MAR 78), (B) USNATO 2227
(DTG 031719Z MAR 78)

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THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF DRAFT PERMREPS' REPORT ON NIKE
HERCULES (REFTEL) GETS TO THE RIGHT CONCLUSION BUT, IN
OUR VIEW, REQUIRES SOME REORDERING AND REVISION ALONG THE
FOLLOWING LINES:

. (A) REFERENCE TO THE LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM IN
THE TITLE AND IN PARA 3 SHOULD BE DELETED, SINCE THIS NIKE
HERCULES ACTION IS SEPARATE FROM THE LTDP.

. (B) THE (ASTERISKED) FOOTNOTE TO THE LAST SENTENCE
OF PARA 1 OF THE REPORT IS INACCURATE, AND SHOULD BE
DROPPED; I.E., ACCORDING TO THE DRAFT OF THE HIGH LEVEL
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GROUP (HLG) REPORT DISCUSSED WITH ALLIES ON 17 MARCH, THE
RESULTS OF THE NIKE HERCULES REPORT WILL NOT REPEAT NOT
BE REFLECTED.

. (C) REFERENCES TO "ADJUSTMENTS" INITIATED IN 1975
IN PARAS 2 AND 4 ARE NOT ESSENTIAL TO THE REPORT AND COULD
BE DELETED.

. (D) SECTION III SHOULD BE TITLED "DISCUSSION" OR "OBSERVATIONS." WE SUGGEST THAT A FINAL SECTION BE ADDED TITLED "CONCLUSIONS," UNDER WHICH THE PENULTIMATE SENTENCE OF PARA 4 SHOULD BE PLACED. THIS SENTENCE SHOULD BE SHARPENED, E.G., REPLACE "SUGGEST" WITH "CONCLUDE." THE REMAINING MATERIAL IN PARAS 4-7 CAN BE COMBINED AND SHORTENED UNDER SECTION III.

. (E) PARA 6A SHOULD HEW CLOSER TO LANGUAGE USED BY THE NMAS IN THEIR EVALUATION, I.E., IN ADDITION TO SMOOTHING OUT THE WORDING, REFERENCE TO "THE REDUCING DETERRENT VALUE" SHOULD BE DELETED AND REPLACED WITH LANGUAGE ALONG THE LINES OF "THE INCREASINGLY LIMITED EFFECTIVENESS" (PARA 4 OF CMCM-12-78, REF B).

. (F) REFERENCE IN PARA 6B TO "A CERTAIN LOSS IN MILITARY EFFECTIVENESS" COULD BE MISUNDERSTOOD, AND SHOULD BE REVISED ACCORDINGLY. TO PICK UP AGREED LANGUAGE USED EARLIER (PARA 3, REF A AND PARA 9 OF OTTAWA AGREED MINUTE), ONE POSSIBLE REVISION MIGHT BE: "MINIMAL CONTIGUOUS AREA COVERAGE IS MAINTAINED SO THAT THERE WILL NOT BE A MAJOR OPERATIONAL LOSS." BENNETT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REGIONAL DEFENSE ORGANIZATIONS, MISSILES, STUDIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978USNATO03022
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780126-0812
Format: TEL
From: USNATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780335/aaaabdhq.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 38481fbf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 USNATO 2951, 78 USNATO 2227
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3232427
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NPG: NIKE-HERCULES -- MISSION COMMENTS ON DRAFT PERMREP REPORT
TAGS: MNUC, NATO, NPG
To: STATE DOD
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/38481fbf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014